

DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND EMERGENCY STATUS REPORT # 6

Wednesday, May 26, 2004

SITUATION OVERVIEW:

Flooding continues throughout portions of Southern Michigan, although several rivers around the State crested yesterday and are now beginning to recede. Southern Michigan has received a reprieve today from heavy rains. Brief rain showers fell yesterday, but the rainfall totals were less than .50 inch, and did not exacerbate the flooding situation. According to the National Weather Service, little or no rain is expected in Southern Michigan today. However, there is a chance of thunderstorms on Thursday, and through the Memorial Day weekend.

As of 2:30 PM today, a total of 13 Michigan counties are still under Flood Warnings from the National Weather Service: Allegan, Barry, Bay, Clinton, Ingham, Ionia, Kent, Midland, Newaygo, Ottawa, Saginaw, Shiawassee, and Livingston. The Grand River, west of Lansing, remains a high area of concern, as floodwaters continue to rise above flood stage in Ionia County, Kent County, and Ottawa County.

The National Weather Service reports the following flood information for affected rivers and streams in Lower Michigan (as of 11:30 AM today):

River	Location	Current Level (Ft)	Flood Stage (Ft)	Expected Crest (Ft)	Date of Crest
Huron	Hamburg	8.1	6.5	8.2	Today
Grand	Ionia	22.8	21.0	Has Crested	
Grand	Lowell	17.2	15.0	17.6	5/27
Grand	Ada	21.5	20.0	21.9	5/27
Grand	Comstock Park	16.1	12.0	17.1	5/27
Grand	Grand Rapids	19.0	18.0	19.8	5/28
Grand	Robinson Twp	15.1	13.3	15.6	5/28-5/29
Kalamazoo	Fennville	11.7	12.0	12.1	5/27
Muskegon	Newaygo	11.4	11.0	Has Crested	
Thornapple	Hastings	9.4	7.0	Has Crested	
Thornapple	Caledonia	11.1	10	Has Crested	
Tittabawassee	Midland	24.0	24.0	Has Crested	
Shiawassee	Owosso	7.8	7.0	Has Crested	
Shiawassee	Fergus	11.4	10	Has Crested	
Maple	Maple Rapids	9.5	9.0	Has Crested	
Cass	Frankenmuth	17.6	17	Has Crested	
Saginaw	Saginaw	19.8	19	20.0	Today

The cleanup process continues for areas with receding waters, with damage assessment information and status updates still being compiled by County offices and local jurisdictions affected by storm damage and flooding damage. More detailed Local and State Agency status reports are expected to come into the Emergency Management Division of the Michigan State Police over the next several days.

LOCAL ACTIONS TAKEN:

All affected communities are taking appropriate local actions to respond to and recover from the flooding and severe storm damage. The following communities have declared a local “state of emergency,” pursuant to 390 PA of 1976, as amended (Michigan Emergency Management Act), as a result of the flooding or severe storm damage:

- Berrien County (storm damage)
- City of Dearborn Heights (flooding)
- Macomb County (flooding)
- Allen Park (flooding)
- City of Ionia (flooding)
- Ionia County (flooding)
- City of Ecorse (flooding)
- St. Joseph County (storm damage); however, this local declaration was later rescinded.
- Hamburg Township, Livingston County (flooding)

STATE ACTIONS TAKEN:

Governor / Executive Office

Governor Granholm toured Macomb County’s flooded areas via motorcade on Tuesday afternoon. Executive staff from the Michigan State Police and Macomb County Emergency Management accompanied the Governor. The Governor held a press conference at Macomb Township Hall after the following the tour. Additionally, Lt. Governor Cherry toured flood-impacted areas in Ionia County today with involved local and state officials.

Emergency Management Division / Michigan Department of State Police

In response to this widespread situation, the Emergency Management Division of the Michigan State Police (EMD/MSP) has partially activated the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) in Lansing and is actively monitoring ongoing response and recovery actions. Appropriate state agencies have been notified of the incident and are conducting their own investigations and assessments of the situation, in accordance with their assigned roles and responsibilities in the Michigan Emergency Management Plan (MEMP). The EMD/MSP has begun to collect and compile damage and impact assessment data from affected local jurisdictions and involved state agencies and private sector organizations. These assessment activities will continue in the coming days as the State attempts to determine the scope, magnitude and severity of the flooding and storm damage.

Michigan Department of State

The Michigan Department of State has issued an emergency exemption waiving International Registration Plan (IRP) and Michigan registration requirements for utility repair vehicles from the following agencies: Indianapolis Power and Light (Indianapolis, IN); Parr Electric (Kansas City, MO); Dillard Smith Electric (Knoxville, TN); Wisconsin Public (Green Bay, WI); Pike Electric (Knoxville, TN); and Wisconsin Public Service. These carriers are also exempt from displaying IFTA fuel decals and drivers hours of service rules in 49 CFR Part 395.

The emergency waiver allows for restoring power to Michigan residences and businesses that lost power in the May 21, 2004 storm. The emergency exemption waiver is approved through Wednesday, May 26, 2004.

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources continues to assess damages and impacts to state parks and recreation areas in four affected southern Michigan districts. Two of the impacted districts provided extensive damage assessment reports as of 9:00AM this morning.

Plainwell District:

Numerous Boating Access Sites (BAS) are either submerged and inaccessible or are experiencing little use due to high water and debris. District Offices are receiving many calls requesting the closure of BAS's. The MDNR will not close BAS's due to temporary high water.

Bald Mountain Recreation Area is experiencing high water with some water over roads but all park areas remain open.

Powers Beach at Proud Lake in Oakland County (southwest of Pontiac) is closed due to roadway wash out but is expected to be reopened for the holiday weekend.

Camp sites have been flooded at a number of parks including Yankee Springs Recreation Area, Burin Lake, Aloha State Park, Ionia State Recreation Area, Waterloo Recreation Area, Hoffmaster State Park, Warren Dunes, Harrisville/Oscoda, and South Higgins Lake State Park. One skid pier from Indian Channel has been swept down stream and broken. There are no reports of closed parks or recreation areas.

The campground at the Bay City State Recreation Area is closed due to flooding is not expected to reopen until after the holiday weekend.

Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth

The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth / Public Service Commission is collecting and compiling damage and impact assessment data from affected electric utilities, including Consumers Energy, Detroit Edison, and American Electric Power.

Michigan Department of Transportation

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is coordinating with local officials to monitor and assess the status of state and local highways and bridges in the affected areas.

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

A representative from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality/Dam Safety Unit, met with Ionia County officials to assess the status of the Lyons Dam, located in the City of Lyons, and the Webber Dam in Ionia County on the Grand River. The Webber Dam is functioning as designed for current conditions. There are no immediate concerns with the Lyons Dam and minor issues identified will be addressed when water levels recede. The MDEQ is also monitoring flood-related wastewater overflows in several communities in the affected area (see separate "Environmental Concerns" report below in the Damage and Impacts section).

Michigan Office of Services to the Aging

The Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (MOSA) is determining costs and needs in areas of the State with flood damage and storm damage. MOSA reports that there has been no interruption in their services, but they have incurred additional costs due to difficulty in delivering meals, providing additional meals and providing water to clients because of power outages. All agency offices within the affected areas have made contact with the local emergency coordinators and are providing assistance as requested.

Michigan Department of Community Health

The Michigan Department of Community Health is contacting all MDCH regional offices to obtain status reports and estimates of additional costs incurred due to the flooding and storm damage.

Michigan Department of Agriculture

The MDA is checking on the status of downed trees throughout the affected region to determine if any were ash trees that might have been infested with the Emerald Ash Borer pest.

DAMAGE AND IMPACTS:

The following damage and impacts have been reported to date:

Summary of Preliminary Damage and Impacts

Jurisdiction	Deaths	Injuries	Homes Damaged	Homes Destroyed	Businesses Damaged	Businesses Destroyed	Local Declaration	Public Damage
City of Allen Park	0	0	500	0	20	0	YES	?
Barry Co	0	0	180	0	0	0	NO	?
Berrien Co	1	14	135	0	8	0	YES	?
Cass Co	0	0	15-20	0	0	0	NO	?
City of Dearborn Hts	0	0	100	0	0	0	YES	?
Eaton Co	0	0	-	-	-	-	NO	?
City of Ecorse	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	?
Ingham Co	1	2	600	0	1	1	NO	1 school; 1 university
City of Ionia	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	1 fairgrounds
Ionia Co	0	0	20	0	10	0	YES	1 dam
Jackson Co	0	0	5	0	0	0	NO	?
City of Lansing	0	0	160	0	0	0	NO	1 zoological park
Livingston Co.	0	0	41-50	0	0	0	YES	?
Macomb Co	0	0	500	1	50	0	YES	?
Newaygo Co	0	0	0	0	0	0	NO	None
City of Port Huron	0	0	65	0	0	0	NO	2 sewer lines
City of Romulus	0	0	2,000	0	12	0	NO	?
Saginaw Co	0	0	0	0	0	0	NO	1 earthen dike
Sanilac Co	0	0	70	0	0	0	NO	?
St Clair Co	0	0	-	-	-	-	NO	1 govt bldg
St Joseph Co	2	4	3	1	3	-	YES**	Yes - TBD
TOTALS:	4	20	4,403	2	104	1	8	8 jurisdictions

** St. Joseph County initially declared for storm damage; however, this local declaration was later cancelled.

Electrical Power Disruptions

Consumers Energy reported that more than 247,000 customers were without power as a result of the May 21 and 22 storms – the 10th highest total in Consumers Energy history – with 7,100 still without service as of Tuesday afternoon (no update for Wednesday 5/26/04). DTE Energy had 236,000 customers without power over the weekend, with 3,600 still without service on Tuesday afternoon (no update for Wednesday 5/26/04). About 80,000 American Electric Power customers in southwest Michigan lost power during the

storms. As of the afternoon of Wednesday 5/26/04, about 2,500 customers are still without power in the St. Joseph service area and about 450 customers in the Three Rivers service area.

Roads Affected

Local communities and newspapers from across the affected area reported today that numerous local roads were still flooded and impassable, making morning commutes difficult in many cases. Many of these roads may remain closed or partially-closed through Wednesday.

Tornado Damage

Tornadoes touched down on Sunday afternoon (May 23) near the cities of Williamston (Ingham County) and Montrose (Genesee County). No reports of significant damage.

Significant Business Damage

Based on reports that have been received by local governments at this time, 104 businesses from 7 jurisdictions have sustained damage. The City of Benton Harbor (Berrien County) sustained at least \$800,000 in damage to businesses (per the City Manager).

Impacts on the Elderly

In the City of Utica, about 80 elderly residents from the Riverside 175 senior complex were evacuated by fire fighters on Sunday (May 23) when the Clinton River went over its banks. The residents spent the night with relatives or were sheltered at a nearby church.

Environmental Concerns

Wastewater treatment overflows have been reported in the following cities:

Ann Arbor, Almont, Bay County, Beverly Hills, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, Buena Vista Township, Cassopolis, Chesaning, Davison, Detroit, Durand, Essixville, Frasier, Grand Ledge, Grand Rapids, Laythrop, Manistee, Marysville, Millington, Plainwell, Port Huron, Saginaw, Saginaw Township, Troy, and Waterford.

These overflows have sent diluted raw sewage into streams and rivers. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is monitoring this situation.

Local Jurisdiction Reports.

City of Allen Park

Flooding has damaged at least 500 homes and 20 businesses in the City of Allen Park. The city declared a local state of emergency on May 24.

Barry County

Barry County reports 180 homes damaged and 200 families displaced by flooding.

Berrien County

A severe storm on May 20 resulted in wind speeds in excess of 100 miles per hour, which left over 60,000 American Electric Power customers without power and caused extensive property damage and debris in 23 affected local communities and townships. Debris removal is being hampered due to impassable roadways and debris piles in front yards and rights of way. The Benton Harbor water treatment plant lost power on May 21, forcing the city to issue a boil water order for local residents. Power was restored to the plant late in the afternoon of May 22, but not all pumping stations were restored to full power. The boil water order

was lifted as of 1:00PM Wednesday 5/26/04. All Benton Harbor schools, closed to students until the boil water order is lifted and water, are expected to reopen tomorrow. Debris and road closures have forced some senior transportation and meal services to be curtailed. Retail stores are reporting losses of perishable items.

Cass County

Cass County reports that 15-20 homes – primarily in the western part of the county – incurred storm damage. Most of the damage was the result of downed tree limbs on homes. Many power lines in the county incurred extensive damage due to high winds.

City of Dearborn Heights

Flooding has damaged at least 100 homes. The city declared a local state of emergency on May 21.

Eaton County

Flooding has submerged 23 county roads, with two washed out. An unknown number of basements have been flooded as well. A natural gas leak occurred in Sunfield on Sunday (May 23) as a result of a lightning strike, but that has since been repaired.

City of Ecorse

The City of Ecorse reports homes and businesses damaged by flooding.

Genesee County

Flooding is reported throughout Genesee County, with several subdivisions being cut off by floodwaters. However, damage assessments are still being conducted so the exact number of structures affected has yet to be determined.

Hamburg Township

Major flooding of the Huron River floodplain occurred adjacent the Huron River, Ore Lake and Little Ore Lake shorelines. Many cottage-style homes lie within the A3 and A2 flood plains and water levels have risen to 26” inside homes. Flood waters engulfed grinder pumps (used for sewage sanitation) resulting in release of effluent into the floodwaters. Privately owned wells are becoming contaminated. The high water level in the culvert under the bridge on Riverside Drive is of concern and the ability of the bridge to withstand the flooding stresses is under evaluation. The Huron River is above flood stage and continues to rise. A local state of emergency was declared on May 25.

Ingham County

Flooding has caused approximately \$200,000 damage to an elementary school in the Leslie Public School District. The City of Lansing is experiencing residential flooding, mainly in the vicinity of Pennsylvania Avenue, near the confluence of the Red Cedar River and Grand River. Minor flooding also occurred in the basement of the Intramural West Building on the campus of Michigan State University.

City of Ionia

Floodwaters of the Grand River in the city of Ionia are decreasing. Businesses on Steel Street are reopening with little or no damage. The flooding could potentially affect a manufacturing plant and several other businesses in the city. In addition, at least 20 homes in the city and an additional 136 homes in Ionia and Easton Townships could be affected. The city’s wastewater treatment plant and one lift station are also at risk. 7,500 sandbags have been used to protect various public facilities in the city. 7,000 reserve sandbags have been filled by a local effort.

Ionia County

Flooding in Ionia County has damaged 20 homes and 10 businesses. Ionia County declared a local state of emergency on May 24 due to the flooding. The Lyons Dam is in danger of failure due to high water and the release of excess water from the Webber dam. Many roads have suffered damage. (See separate report for the City of Ionia.)

Jackson County

Flooding has damaged 5 homes in various locations of the county. Severe winds also downed many power lines, which caused power outages.

Livingston County

Severe flooding in Hamburg Township and Green Oak Township damaged 25 homes and 50 individuals needed shelter. (See separate report for Hamburg Township.)

Macomb County

Flooding in Macomb County has damaged 500 homes and 50 businesses and caused many local roads to be impassable. The county declared a local state of emergency on May 23.

Newaygo County

Newaygo County reports that Consumers Energy has enacted their emergency plan for the Croton Dam on the Muskegon River. The dam is secure, but homes in some low lying areas may have flooding.

City of Port Huron

The City of Port Huron reports flood damage to 65 homes. In addition, two sewer lines were damaged by floodwaters.

City of Romulus

The City of Romulus reports that 2,000+ homes and 12 businesses have been damaged by flooding and severe winds. The flooding and storms also caused some damage to public buildings and electric power infrastructure.

St. Joseph County

Severe storms in St. Joseph County on May 21 caused 2 deaths and 4 injuries, damaged three homes and three businesses, and destroyed one home. The county declared a local state of emergency on May 21, but cancelled the declaration on May 23.

Shiawassee County

The county has not submitted an assessment report, but the county reports that there is a possibility of a dam failure in the City of Corunna. This situation is being investigated by the county and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

St. Clair County

St. Clair County reports minor flood damage in the basement of the county's health department building. No information has been submitted regarding damage to private homes and businesses.

Sanilac County

Flooding in the City of Croswell damaged 70 homes.

Wayne County

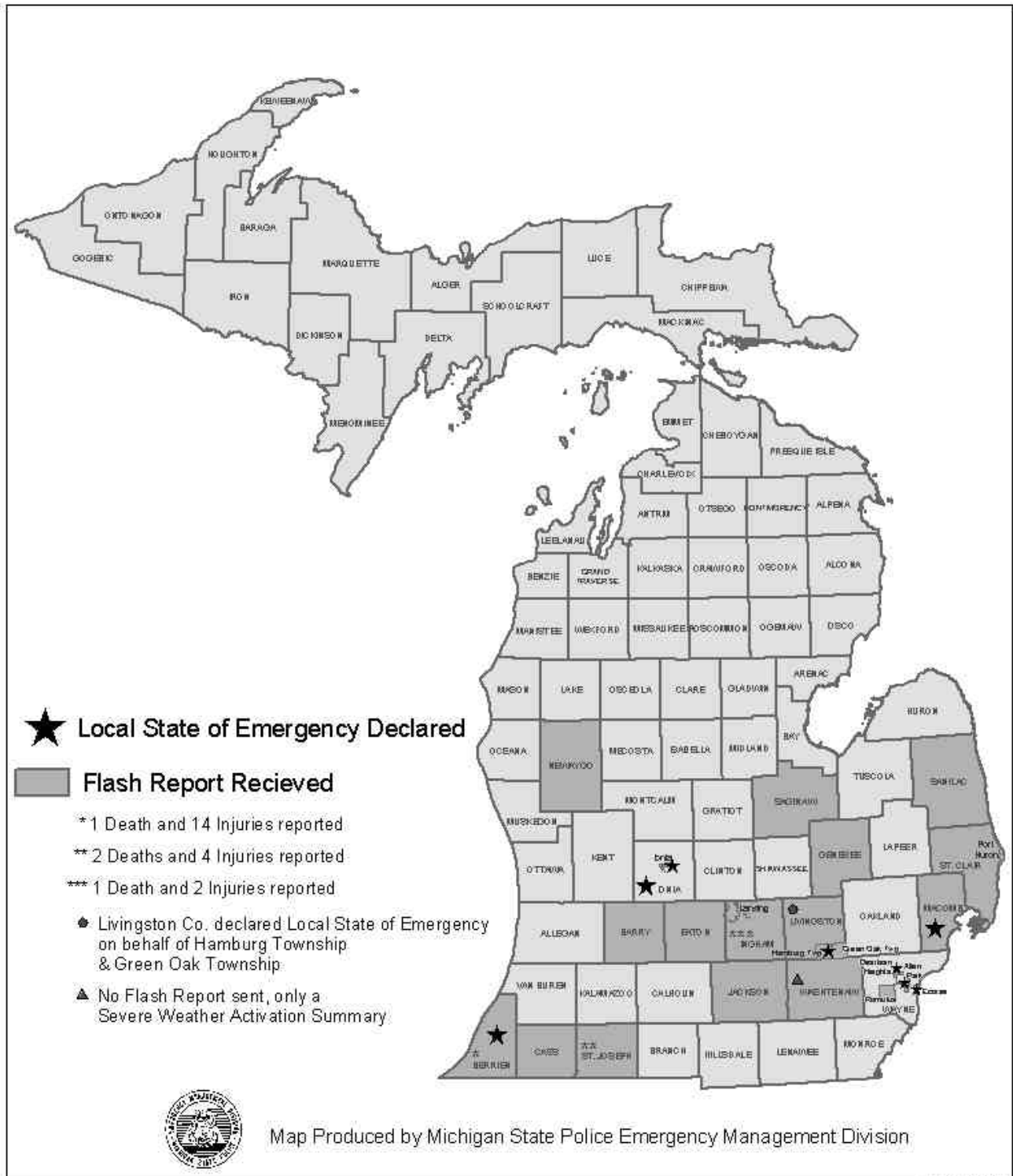
The county has not yet submitted an assessment report, but newspaper accounts of the damage within the county indicate that upwards of 1,000 homes may have been flooded. In addition, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality reports that Van Buren Township and the City of Belleville were under a boil water order due to a loss of water system pressure caused by a power outage. The boil water advisories were lifted today at noon.

Saginaw County

A section of the Flint River Dike is breaking, causing flooding of adjacent farm fields. However, approximately 50 homes are close to the area currently being flooded.

Areas Affected by Severe Weather

As of 2:30 PM Wednesday, May 26, 2004



FLOOD DAMAGE PHOTOS

(Ionia County – Ionia Free Fairgrounds)



Photo courtesy of Sentinel-Standard

(Saginaw County – Flint River)



ADDITIONAL STATUS REPORTS WILL BE DEVELOPED AS NEW OR UPDATED INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE.